

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05444 051657Z

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ACTION CU-04

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R 051431Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 172

UNCLAS LAGOS 5444

E.O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS : OEXC NI

SUBJ : IV GRANT FOR J.P. CLARK

REF : A-4227

1. EMBASSY NOMINATES PROFESSOR J.P. CLARK, POET, PLAYWRIGHT, AND CHAIRMAN OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS FOR AN INTERNATIONAL VISITOR GRANT TO BEGIN AUGUST 13 AND CONTINUE THROUGH SEPTEMBER 8. MAIN PURPOSE OF VISIT WOULD BE TO ACCEPT INVITATION TO IX INTL CONG. OF ANTHROPOLOGICAL SCIENCES FROM AUGUST 28 TO SEPT. 8. CLARK HAS ALSO BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN PRELIMINARY FOLKLORE SECTION AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY BEGINNING AUGUST 28. HOWEVER, EMBASSY ALSO REGARDS THESE INVITATIONS AS EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO RECIPROCATATE RECENT VISIT BY JOHN UPDIKE IN WHICH CLARK ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED AND HAVE HIM MEET POETS, LITERARY CRITICS, TEACHING COLLEAGUES, VISIT THE THEATRE AND DRAMA FESTIVALS SUCH AS SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL IN STRATFORD, CONN.

2. TOUR SHOULD INCLUDE VISITS TO WASHINGTON (ARENA STAGE AND KENNEDY CENTER); NEW YORK (LINCOLN CENTER PLUS OTHER THEATER ACTIVITIES); NEW HAVEN (YALE DRAMA SCHOOL) AND BOSTON (JOHN UPDIKE AND HARVARD UNIV.) UPDIKE MAY WANT TO ACCOMPANY CLARK DURING HIS VISIT TO HARVARD.

3. BIODATA FOLLOWS:

FULL NAME : JOHN PEPPER CLARK

DATE OF BIRTH : APRIL 6, 1935

PLACE OF BIRTH : KIAGBODO, NIGERIA

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 05444 051657Z

CITIZENSHIP : NIGERIAN

PRESENT ADDRESS: UNIVERSITY OF LAROS, YABA, LAGOS
ACADEMIC TRAINING : B.A. (HONS) ENGLISH, 1960, IBADAN; PRINCETON
UNIVERSITY, 1962-63, PARVIN FELLOWSHIP.
PRESENT POSITION: PROFESSOR AND HEAD OF ENGLISH; EDITOR,
BLACK ORPHEUS.
PAST POSITIONS : RESEARCH FELLOW, UNIBADAN 1963-64;
LECTURER AND SECIOR LECTURER, UNILAG 1965-72.
PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO THE UNITED STATES : 1962-63; 1968,
FAIRFIELD FOUNDATION; 1971, BOOKS ABROAD
PROGRAM.
PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO OTHER COUNTRIES: NUMEROUS
MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: NIL
PUBLICATIONS : SONG OF A GOAT (PLAY); THREE PLAYS; PEOMS;
AMERICA, THEIR AMERICA; A REED IN THE
TIDE; OZIDI; THE EXAMPLE OF SHAKESPEARE;
CASUALTIES (POETRY).

4. NAMECHECK SATISFACTORY. VISA ELIGIBLE.
REINHARDT

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